

Add 'tuk' to the end of a statement to show past tense. Remember, in Choctaw the verb will always come at the end of the sentence and the past tense marker is placed after the verb.

<u>Present</u>		<u>Past tense</u>	
Impa li.	I am eating.	Impa li tuk.	I ate.
Ish nusi ho?	Are you sleeping	Ish nusi tuk o?	Did you sleep?
Balili li.	I am running.	Balili li tuk.	I ran.

4) achi - future tense marker

There are suffixes that are attached to the verb stem to 'show future tense.' In the this phase, we will study -achi. Again, Choctaw being a verb final language the suffix will attach to a verb at the end of the sentence.

<u>English</u>		<u>Choctaw</u>	
<u>Present</u>	<u>Future tense</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Future tense</u>
hear	will hear	haklo	hakla chi
see	will see	pisa	pisa chi
eat	will eat	impa	impa chi
sleep	will sleep	nusi	nusa chi

Please note: Verbs that end in an 'a' will automatically slide into the use of 'achi', however, if the word preceding the use of 'achi', ends in vowels 'o' or 'i', those vowels must be dropped and changed to an 'a' to show 'achi'.

Let's look again at those words.

to hear	haklo	will hear	hakla chi - the 'o' is dropped
to sleep	nusi	will sleep	nusa chi - the 'i' is dropped
to see	pisa	will see	pisa chi - no vowel dropped

5) vpa - to eat; to be used with a 'named item'

The word 'impa' means to eat. 'Vpa' means to eat also, but this word will always have the named food item to precede it.

Example: Takkon vpa li. I am eating an apple.